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ABSTRACT

An advanced General Education Program has been designed to prepare an individual with the information, concepts, and general knowledge required to successfully pass the American Council on Education's High School General Education Development (GED) Test. The Advanced General Education Program provides comprehensive self-instruction in each of the following areas: (1) Correctness and effectiveness of Expression, (2) Social Studies, (3) Natural Sciences, (4) Interpretation of Literary Materials, and (5) General Mathematics. This document covers word roots, prefixes and suffixes, and word context clues. (CK)

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# ADVANCED GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

## A HIGH SCHOOL SELF-STUDY PROGRAM

**WORD ROOTS, PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES**

LEVEL: I

UNIT: 1

LESSON: 1

AC 014035

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
MANPOWER ADMINISTRATION, JOB CORPS
NOVEMBER 1969

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MANPOWER ADMINISTRATION, JOB CORPS
NOVEMBER 1969

1.

INTRODUCTION

As you take these lessons to prepare you for the tests that lead to a high school equivalency certificate, you will come across words whose meanings you do not know. One way to learn the meaning of new words is to look them up in a dictionary. But that takes time, and it can be annoying to have to stop and look up a word.

In this lesson, you will learn some skills that will help you to figure out the meaning of many new words -- without having to use your dictionary. You will learn how to examine a word carefully, how to look at it closely, looking for a familiar part of the word that will help you figure out the whole word.

NO RESPONSE REQUIRED

GO ON TO THE NEXT FRAME

2.

Read the paragraph below, looking carefully at the underlined words.

> They all started <u>running</u> when the starting gun was fired. It was a close race all the way. But then a dog darted onto the track, getting in the way of one of the <u>runners</u>. In order to be fair, they decided to <u>rerun</u> the race.

Each of the underlined words above contains the same small word. A word that can take beginings or endings to form larger words is a <u>root.</u>

DRAW a circle around the root in each of these words:

running
runners
rerun

running
runners
rerun

Since the words above all have the same root, their meanings are similar. Running, runners and rerun all have something to do with:

- ☐ being fair
- ☐ dogs
- ☐ guns
- ☐ moving quickly

moving quickly

1

3.

Read each of these sentences, looking carefully at the underlined words.

Judging from Ken's messy workbench, he was completely <u>disorganized</u> about his project.

Bob could never find the papers he wanted, so he decided to <u>reorganize</u> his desk.

Ted didn't quite understand the <u>organization</u> of the tool shop, so he always had trouble finding what he wanted.

The root of <u>organization</u> is <u>organize</u>.

CIRCLE the root in each of these words.

disorganized
reorganized

disorganized
reorganized

Each of the underlined words above comes from the same root, so they have similar meanings. They all have something to do with:

- ☐ making something
- ☐ playing a musical instrument
- ☐ putting things in order
- ☐ reading

putting things in order

4.

If you do not know what a word means, but you know what its root means, you have a very good clue to the meaning of the unfamiliar word.

<u>Disorganized</u> <u>reorganize</u> and <u>organization</u> all have:

- ☐ different roots
- ☐ opposite meanings
- ☐ the same meaning
- ☐ the same root
- ☐ similar roots

the same root

5

6. The crowd laughed uncontrollably.

   Uncontrollably means _____.

7. The teacher demanded perfection from his students.

   Perfection means _____.

8. He answered the question inexactly.

   Inexactly means _____.

9. The countryside seemed picturesque.

   Picturesque means _____.

10. The boys were unmanageable.

    Unmanageable means _____.

Time Completed_____

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED THIS TEST, WRITE DOWN THE TIME. THEN TAKE THE LESSON TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR OR HIS ASSISTANT FOR CHECKING. WAIT UNTIL THE LESSON IS APPROVED BEFORE GOING ON TO THE NEXT LESSON.



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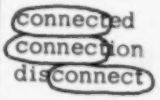
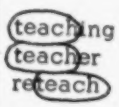
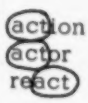
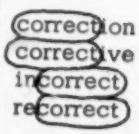
| | |
|---|---|
| 5.<br><br>CIRCLE the root in each of these words:<br><br>connected<br>connection<br>disconnect |  |
| 6.<br><br>CIRCLE the root in each of these words:<br><br>teaching<br>teacher<br>reteach |  |
| 7.<br><br>CIRCLE the root in each of these words:<br><br>action<br>actor<br>react |  |
| 8.<br><br>CIRCLE the root in each of these words:<br><br>correction<br>corrective<br>incorrect<br>recorrect |  |

7

Directions: Read each sentence. Then WRITE in the blank a word or a phrase that means the same thing as the underlined word.

For example, suppose you were given this sentence:

John walked down the street <u>rapidly</u>.

This is how you might have answered:

<u>Rapidly</u> means quickly.

Or you might have answered this way:

<u>Rapidly</u> means in a hurry.

---

1. The United States <u>supremacy</u> in the Olympic Field and Track events has been successfully challenged by Russia.

   <u>Supremacy</u> means _____.

2. He worked <u>unnecessarily</u> hard.

   <u>Unnecessarily</u> means _____.

3. The team was behind in the first quarter because the coach sent in a substitute <u>prematurely</u>.

   <u>Prematurely</u> means _____.

4. In his costume, he was <u>unrecognizable</u>.

   <u>Unrecognizable</u> means _____.

5. Gas and oil must be mixed in the right <u>proportions</u> for a car's engine to work.

   <u>Proportions</u> means _____.

| | |
|---|---|
| 9.<br><br>CIRCLE the root in each of these words:<br><br>dependent<br>independent<br>independence<br>interdependent | dependent<br>independent<br>independence<br>interdependent |
| 10.<br><br>The root of a word can be:<br><br>☐ at the beginning of the word<br>☐ at the end of the word<br>☐ in the middle of the word | at the beginning of the word<br>at the end of the word<br>in the middle of the word |
| 11.<br><br>DRAW a circle around the root in each of these words. (The first one is done for you.)<br><br>harmless<br>nonsense<br>soften<br>strangeness<br>unsuccessful | nonsense<br>soften<br>strangeness<br>unsuccessful |
| 12.<br><br>CIRCLE the root in each of these words:<br><br>impossible<br>laughter<br>misbehaved<br>misfortune<br>powerful | impossible<br>laughter<br>misbehaved<br>misfortune<br>powerful |

# 9

## MASTERY TEST

Time started _____

13.

Quite often the root of a word is changed a little when it is combined with other letters to make a larger word. For example, the word happiness has as its root the word happy. In this case, the letter "y" was simply changed to the letter "i."

Sometimes part of a root word is left out of the larger word. For example, the word muscular comes from the root word muscle.

For each of the words below, figure out what the root is, and WRITE it on the line next to the word. (The first one is done for you.)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| continually | continue | |
| decision | _____ | decide |
| heaviness | _____ | heavy |
| indescribable | _____ | describe |
| impossibility | _____ | possible |
| loveliness | _____ | love or lovely |
| plentiful | _____ | plenty |
| undesirable | _____ | desire |

14.

When you find words whose meaning you do not know, some of these words will have roots that you do know. If so, you will be able to figure out what the larger word means.

READ this sentence, paying special attention to the underlined word.

John wasn't able to differentiate between the twins.

You probably do not know the meaning of the word differentiate, but you can discover what it means by looking for a familiar root in the word.

CIRCLE the root in this word:

differentiate

(differentiate) or (differentiate)

11

| | |
|---|---|
| ROOT | a word that is part of a larger word<br><br>EXAMPLES: the word RUN appears in the word RUNNING<br><br>the word PREPARE is the root of PREPARATORY |
| word clues:<br><br>UN - (before a root word)<br><br><br>IN - (before a root word) | often means NOT<br><br>EXAMPLES: UNSURE means "not sure"<br>UNCOOKED means "not cooked"<br><br>often means NOT<br><br>EXAMPLES: INDIRECT means "not direct"<br>INACTIVE means "not active" |

| | |
|---|---|
| 15.<br><br>Now READ this sentence again:<br><br>John wasn't able to <u>differentiate</u> between the twins.<br><br>The word <u>differentiate</u> tells us that John wasn't able to:<br><br>☐ collect any money from the twins<br>☐ see any space between the twins<br>☐ stand between the twins<br>☐ tell which twin was which | tell which twin was which |
| 16.<br><br>Here is another sentence containing a word you may not know. See if you can figure out what it means by looking for a familiar root.<br><br>There is a lot of <u>preparatory</u> work to be done before you take the GED tests.<br><br>WRITE down the root word that preparatory comes from. _____ | prepare |
| 17.<br><br>CHECK the sentence where putting the word <u>preparatory</u> in the blank makes the most sense.<br><br>☐ There are a lot of _____ arrangements to be made before going on a trip.<br><br>☐ His advisor told him to wait until the project was finished, and then do the _____ work. | There are a lot of <u>preparatory</u> arrangements to be made before going on a trip. |

13

59.

You have now learned three good ways of attacking new words. Put a T next to the true statements below. Put an F next to those that are false.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. _____ | The letters "in" at the beginning of a word always mean "not". | F |
| 2. _____ | The letters "un" in the beginning of a word always mean "not". | F |
| 3. _____ | The letters "un" in front of a word often mean "not". | T |
| 4. _____ | There are words beginning with the letters "in" where these letters mean "not". | T |
| 5. _____ | The spelling of a root is sometimes changed when it is combined with other letters to make a new word. | T |
| 6. _____ | You can often figure out the meaning of a word by looking for a familiar root in it. | T |

60.

Did you mark question 1 or question 2 with a T (answer to yourself)? If so, stop a minute and think about this: When reading questions and statements look for the word always. Some things are often true but not always. A question may be trying to test your ability to think about the difference between sometimes and always.

NO RESPONSE REQUIRED

GO ON TO THE NEXT FRAME

61.

You have learned how to examine words and derive or figure out their meaning by looking for a familiar part of the word. As you continue your studies, you'll probably be surprised to see how often this skill will help you.

YOU HAVE NOW FINISHED THE FIRST PART OF THIS LESSON. WRITE DOWN THE TIME. THEN, AFTER YOU HAVE REVIEWED THE MAIN IDEAS IN THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY, TAKE THE MASTERY TEST AT THE END OF THE BOOKLET.

| | |
|---|---|
| 18.<br><br>The water began to <u>solidify</u>.<br><br>The root of solidify is <u>solid</u>, which means <u>hard</u>.<br><br>In this example, the word <u>solidify</u> tells us that the water started to:<br><br>☐ boil<br>☐ freeze<br>☐ get dark<br>☐ spill | freeze |
| 19.<br><br>The President's <u>declaration</u> was frightening.<br><br>The root of declaration is <u>declare</u>, which means <u>say</u>.<br><br>In the sentence above, <u>declaration</u> means:<br><br>☐ army<br>☐ face<br>☐ promise<br>☐ statement | statement |
| 20.<br><br>If you talked with an <u>argumentative</u> person, he would probably:<br><br>☐ disagree with you<br>☐ not have much to say<br>☐ speak in a quiet voice<br>☐ tell many jokes | disagree with you |

57.

There are many words beginning with the letters "in" that do not follow the rule you have just learned. In these words, the "in" is part of the word itself.

What is the easiest and fastest way to tell if the letters "in" in the beginning of a word mean "not"?

- ☐ ask your teacher what the word means
- ☐ cover up the letters "in" and see if you recognize a familiar word in what is left
- ☐ guess
- ☐ look the word up in your dictionary

cover up the letters "in" . . .

58.

COVER up the "in" in each of these words. If you have a word left, CIRCLE the word. If the letters "in" are part of the word itself, DRAW a circle around the whole word. The first two are done for you.

| | |
|---|---|
| inadequate | |
| interval | |
| individual | individual |
| informal | informal |
| initial | initial |
| injustice | injustice |
| interest | interest |

| | |
|---|---|
| 21.<br><br>Some scientists are called <u>behaviorists</u>. What do you think they study?<br><br>☐ biology<br>☐ the way people and animals act<br>☐ the way people dress<br>☐ what people think | the way people . . . act |
| 22.<br><br>If someone went on an <u>exploratory</u> trip, he would be:<br><br>☐ carrying dynamite<br>☐ looking for something<br>☐ traveling by airplane<br>☐ visiting friends | looking for something |
| 23.<br><br>A <u>studious</u> person is one who:<br><br>☐ comes from a big city<br>☐ enjoys the out-of-doors<br>☐ is funny<br>☐ likes to read | likes to read |
| 24.<br><br>A "defect" is a "fault". Should a brand new car be <u>defective</u>?<br><br>☐ no<br>☐ yes | no |

| | |
|---|---|
| 55.<br><br>READ the following paragraph. Try to figure out what the underlined word means.<br><br>Jim was reading a very complicated book about electricity. It told how to make a radio. The instructions were all very clear. But when Jim got near the end of the chapter, there was one direction that just didn't make sense. Finally he realized that there was an <u>inaccuracy</u> in the book.<br><br><u>Inaccuracy</u> means _____. | mistake<br>(or equivalent response) |
| 56.<br><br>READ this paragraph. Try to decide what the underlined word means.<br><br>Carl returned from the war with a foot injury which he got when a grenade exploded near him. He had his leg in a cast for two months, and then he used crutches for another month. After that, he was able to walk <u>unassisted</u>, but his foot still hurt him sometimes.<br><br><u>Unassisted</u> means _____. | without help; by himself<br>(or equivalent response) |

| | |
|---|---|
| 25.<br><br>To have "influence" means to have "the power to change things". Which of these people would be most <u>influential</u> in running a city?<br><br>☐ a doctor<br>☐ a mayor<br>☐ a policeman<br>☐ a teacher | a mayor |
| 26.<br><br>To "resist" means to "oppose, or go against". Which of these things shows the greatest <u>resistance</u> to water?<br><br>☐ cotton<br>☐ paper<br>☐ plastic<br>☐ a sponge | plastic |

| | |
|---|---|
| 52.<br><br>"frequent" means "often"<br><br>Which of these things happens most <u>infrequently</u>?<br><br>☐ a new president is elected<br>☐ it rains<br>☐ the sun rises | a new president is elected |
| 53.<br><br>"consistent" means "in agreement with"<br><br>Which of these things is <u>inconsistent</u> with the idea of justice?<br><br>☐ An innocent man is put in jail.<br>☐ A man accused of a crime is given a fair trial.<br>☐ A man who is caught speeding has to pay a fine.<br>☐ All citizens* are given equal opportunities.<br><br>*A <u>citizen</u> is a member of a state or country. His country offers him rights and protection. | An innocent man is put in jail. |
| 54.<br><br>"dispute" is to "argue" or "disagree"<br><br>Which of these statements is <u>indisputable</u>?<br><br>☐ Johnson will be re-elected president in 1968.<br><br>☐ The Yankees will win the pennant next year.<br><br>☐ The sun will rise tomorrow.<br><br>☐ The U.S. will be the first to put a man on the moon. | The sun will rise tomorrow. |

27.

accumulate or cumulate: to collect; to increase in number

READ each sentence and use the above definition to answer the question below it.

Most of the people said they saw the old man try to save the dog. A few people said the man didn't try. The cumulative effect of all the discussion was that the owner of the dog thanked the old man.

This means that because so many people said they saw the old man try:

- ☐ the few people were lying
- ☐ the people said the old man didn't try because they disliked him
- ☐ their opinions added up and convinced the owner

their opinions added up . . .

Rick was quite proud of his accumulation of Corpsmen Advisory System points.

This means that Rick probably:

- ☐ doesn't know how many points he has
- ☐ has an average number of points
- ☐ has only a couple of points
- ☐ has quite a few points

has quite a few points

| | |
|---|---|
| 49.<br><br>"stable" means "lasting" or "steady"<br><br>Which of these people show the greatest <u>instability</u>?<br><br>☐ a boy in school<br>☐ a man who has been a mechanic for 20 years<br>☐ a man who was drafted and who decided to make the army his career<br>☐ a young man who has had seven jobs in two years | a young man who has had . . . |
| 50.<br><br>"compatible" means "able to get along"<br><br>Their adviser couldn't understand the boys' <u>incompatibility</u>.<br><br>This means that the adviser didn't know:<br><br>☐ what the boys liked to do<br>☐ where the boys came from<br>☐ why the boys were so friendly<br>☐ why the boys were unfriendly | why the boys were unfriendly |
| 51.<br><br>"audible" means "able to be heard"<br><br>If you wanted your voice to be <u>inaudible</u>, you would probably:<br><br>☐ laugh<br>☐ shout<br>☐ talk in a normal voice<br>☐ whisper | whisper |

28.

intend: to plan; to have something in mind

It was his intention to make a million dollars.

In the sentence above, intention means:

- ☐ chance
- ☐ fate
- ☐ goal
- ☐ luck

goal

The father hit his son intentionally.

- ☐ by mistake
- ☐ hard
- ☐ on purpose
- ☐ suddenly

on purpose

29.

voluntary: done by one's own choice

The Peace Corps is made up of volunteer workers.

This means that the people who work in the Peace Corps:

- ☐ are hard workers
- ☐ are valuable
- ☐ want to be in the Peace Corps
- ☐ were forced into the Peace Corps

want to be in the Peace Corps

Gene went to work voluntarily.

This means he went:

- ☐ because he wanted to
- ☐ because he was afraid
- ☐ because he was forced to
- ☐ because he was hungry

because he wanted to

23

| | |
|---|---|
| 46.<br><br>FILL IN THE BLANK with the word that best completes each of these sentences.<br><br>active - inactive<br><br>Because it was so hot out, Fred was happy to remain _____.<br><br>visible - invisible<br><br>When it's dark out, and you're walking in the street, it's good to wear something light-colored so you will be _____ to drivers. | inactive<br><br>visible |
| 47.<br><br>"sufficient" means "enough"<br><br>Much of the land in Egypt gets <u>insufficient</u> rainfall for growing food.<br><br>This means that there is:<br><br>☐ just enough rain<br>☐ plenty of rain<br>☐ too little rain<br>☐ too much rain | too little rain |
| 48.<br><br>"distinct" means "clear"<br><br>The announcer's voice was <u>indistinct</u>.<br><br>This means that:<br><br>☐ he could be heard clearly<br>☐ he spoke in a foreign language<br>☐ his voice was very loud<br>☐ you could hardly understand him | you could hardly . . . |

30.

MATCH the words in the right hand column with the definitions on the left.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A. brave | 1. _____ accuracy | C |
| B. concerning mothers and fathers | 2. _____ courageous | A |
| C. correctness | | |
| D. growing up | 3. _____ falsify | F |
| E. having strong ideas | | |
| F. make untrue | 4. _____ maturation | D |
| | 5. _____ opinionated | E |
| | 6. _____ parental | B |

31.

When you come across a new word that you do not know, you can often figure out what it means by looking for a familiar root.

This means that you:

- ☐ look for a word you know within the new word
- ☐ look the word up in the dictionary
- ☐ skip over the word and hope it isn't too important

look for a word you know . . .

32.

STOP

WRITE the time you finished frame 31 here: _____

It's time to take a break. You have completed half of your lesson on how to analyze words. Leave your lesson on your desk and leave the room quietly. Relax and stretch your legs. Don't take more than ten minutes. When you return to your desk, try not to disturb other students who are working.

25

| | |
|---|---|
| 44.<br><br>Now that you have learned the "un" clue, you are ready for another clue. Here it is: "in"<br><br>LOOK at this pair of words: correct - incorrect<br><br>The pair of words above have:<br><br>☐ opposite meanings<br>☐ the same meanings<br>☐ similar meanings | opposite meanings |
| The letters "in" in front of a root word means:<br><br>☐ again<br>☐ in<br>☐ not<br>☐ out | not |
| "In" and "un" change a word by<br><br>☐ always keeping the same root<br>☐ making it into its opposite | making it into its opposite |
| 45.<br><br>FILL IN THE BLANK with the correct word from each pair to complete the sentences below.<br><br>complete - incomplete<br><br>Tom was embarrassed to go to class because his homework was _____. | incomplete |
| direct - indirect<br><br>Since he was in a hurry, Jack chose the shortest, most _____ path to the park, where his buddies were waiting for him. | direct |

Write the time you returned from your break here: _____

43.

Not all words that begin with the letters "un" follow the rule you just learned. Sometimes, the letters "un" are part of the actual word. For example, LOOK at this word: unite

Cover up the letters "un" in the word "unite." You are left with the letters "ite." "Ite" does not mean anything by itself, so the word unite cannot mean the opposite of "ite."

Try this test on the following words. Cover up the letters "un." If you have a familiar word left, CIRCLE that part of the word. If the letters "un" are part of the whole word, then DRAW a circle around the whole word. The first two are done for you.

| | |
|---|---|
| (uniform) | |
| un(able) | |
| uncertain | un(certain) |
| uncommon | un(common) |
| undiscovered | un(discovered) |
| unemployed | un(employed) |
| unhappy | un(happy) |
| unity | (unity) |
| universal | (universal) |

| | |
|---|---|
| 33<br><br>So far, you have learned that whenever you see a word you do not know, you should look for a part of the word that is familiar to you. In this way, you will be able to figure out the meaning of the larger word.<br><br>There are other important clues that will help you understand the meaning of unfamiliar words.<br><br>Here is one such clue: un<br><br>That's right! Just the two letters "un" can give you a clue to the meaning of many words. For example, LOOK at this pair of words.<br><br>necessary - unnecessary<br><br>These two words are spelled exactly alike except that the second word has two letters added to the beginning. What are these letters? — —<br><br>"Necessary" means "needed." What does "unnecessary" mean?<br><br>☐ needed<br>☐ not needed | <br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br><br>u n<br><br><br><br>not needed |
| 34.<br><br>Now LOOK at this pair of words:<br><br>important - unimportant<br><br>The two words are spelled the same, except the second one has the letters — —<br><br>The meaning of these two words are:<br><br>☐ opposite<br>☐ the same<br>☐ similar<br><br>"Defeated" means "beaten." If a fighter is <u>undefeated</u>, it means he:<br><br>☐ has never lost a fight<br>☐ has never won a fight | <br><br><br><br><br><br>u n<br><br><br>opposite<br><br><br><br>has never lost a fight |

41.

"controversy" means "disagreement"

The topic under discussion was <u>uncontroversial</u>.

This means that:

- ☐ everyone had different opinions about the topic
- ☐ no one had strong feelings for or against the topic
- ☐ no one knew very much about the topic
- ☐ no one was interested in the topic

no one had strong . . .

42.

A "compromise" is an agreement reached by having each side give in a little.

His father was completely <u>uncompromising</u> when it came to letting Jim stay out all night.

This means that Jim's father:

- ☐ didn't care whether or not Jim stayed out all night
- ☐ would always let Jim stay out all night
- ☐ would never let Jim stay out all night
- ☐ would sometimes let Jim stay out all night

would never let Jim . . .

| | |
|---|---|
| 35.<br><br>When a word has the letters "un" added to it, the new word will have a meaning that is:<br><br>☐ the opposite of the original word<br>☐ the same as the original word<br>☐ similar to the original word | the opposite of the . . . |
| 36.<br><br>PICK the word from each pair that will best complete the sentence and FILL IN the blank.<br><br>cook - uncooked<br><br>Mrs. Miller forgot to turn on the oven before she left, so when she got home, the meat was still _____.<br><br>sure - unsure<br><br>Bill studied all night, so when he went to take the test he was very _____ of himself. | uncooked<br><br>sure |
| 37.<br><br>COMPLETE each sentence by writing the correct word on the line.<br><br>used - unused<br><br>The plastic wrapper around the record was torn, so Dick was sure that the record had been _____.<br><br>harmed - unharmed<br><br>Tom had given the other guy a bloody nose, but he himself didn't get a single scratch -- he was completely _____. | used<br><br>unharmed |

38.

Using what you have learned about roots, and about the letters "un," answer the following questions.

The child's question was unanswerable.

This means that the child's question was:

- ☐ difficult to answer
- ☐ easy to answer
- ☐ impossible to answer
- ☐ silly

impossible to answer

39.

The cat was completely unpredictable.

This means that:

- ☐ the cat liked to do many different things
- ☐ the cat was always hungry
- ☐ the cat was very unfriendly
- ☐ you could never tell what the cat was going to do

you could never tell what . . .

40.

The baby was undisturbed by the loud noise.

This means that the baby:

- ☐ enjoyed the noise
- ☐ was awakened by the noise
- ☐ was frightened by the noise
- ☐ wasn't bothered by the noise

wasn't bothered by the noise

PM 431 - 2

# ADVANCED GENERAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

## A HIGH SCHOOL SELF-STUDY PROGRAM

**WORD CONTEXT CLUES**

LEVEL: I

UNIT: 1

LESSON: 2

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
MANPOWER ADMINISTRATION, JOB CORPS
NOVEMBER 1969

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
MANPOWER ADMINISTRATION, JOB CORPS
NOVEMBER 1969

| | |
|---|---|
| 1.<br><br>INTRODUCTION<br><br>In the last lesson, you learned an important vocabulary skill: how to discover the meaning of new words by looking at the words themselves. You learned that many words have familiar roots which may help you to understand what the longer words mean.<br><br>This lesson is going to teach you how to figure out the meaning of words that are totally unfamiliar to you -- words that have no familiar roots. You will see that the words around the unfamiliar word often give clues to its definition, or its meaning. You will learn how to examine the words around a new word in order to find these clues.<br><br>NO RESPONSE REQUIRED | GO ON TO THE NEXT FRAME |
| 2.<br><br>A word lives in a neighborhood of words. If you study the neighborhood, you may find a word's meaning.<br><br>Let's examine a word in its neighborhood. The word we are looking at is "prohibit".<br><br>Because broken glass and rusty cans are dangerous, Coney Island should <u>prohibit</u> all eating and drinking on the beach. Picnics <u>should not be allowed</u> on any beach.<br><br><u>Prohibit</u> means _____ | should not be allowed |

35

4. The school principal had been listening to complaints all day long. If one more person came to him with a grievance he'd probably feel like socking him.

   Grievance means _____.

5. The boy meant to help his mother, but it turned out that he was hindering her instead.

   Hindering means _____.

6. Each of the men tried to lift the heavy box, but neither of them could do it alone. Then they decided to try it together. Through their mutual effort, they were able to move it.

   Mutual means _____.

7. Some people are very prosperous. They have a great deal of money and can do whatever they want.

   Prosperous means _____.

8. Some types of birds are very prevalent. Others are quite uncommon, and can be seen only in zoos.

   Prevalent means _____.

9. In order to alleviate the problem, he did everything in his power to make extra money.

   Alleviate means _____.

10. His two favorite TV programs came on concurrently, so he had to watch one or the other. He could never see them both.

    Concurrently means _____.

Time completed _____

WHEN YOU HAVE FINISHED THIS TEST, WRITE DOWN THE TIME. THEN TAKE THE LESSON TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR OR HIS ASSISTANT FOR CHECKING. WAIT UNTIL THE LESSON IS APPROVED BEFORE GOING ON TO THE NEXT LESSON.



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| | |
|---|---|
| 3.<br><br>Here is another example of how the definition of a word may be given in the sentences around it.<br><br>The blizzard swept into the city unexpectedly. The snowstorm with high winds caught the drivers unaware. Many cars were stuck in snow-filled streets.<br><br>A blizzard is a _____ | snowstorm with high winds |
| 4.<br><br>The bird sanctuary offered a safe resting place to birds flying south.<br><br>A sanctuary is:<br><br>☐ a place of protection<br>☐ a place with food available<br>☐ a place with heat available<br>☐ a place with lots of trees | a place of protection |
| 5.<br><br>In this example you can find the meaning of violating in the first sentence.<br><br>CIRCLE the words that help you define violating.<br><br>Parking your car in front of a fire hydrant is against the law. If you park there, you'll get a ticket for violating the law.<br><br>Violating in this sentence means:<br><br>☐ breaking a fire hydrant<br>☐ breaking a law<br>☐ getting a ticket<br>☐ parking a car | against the law<br><br>breaking a law |

37

Directions: Read each sentence carefully. Then WRITE in the blank a word or phrase that means the same thing as the underlined word.

For example, suppose you were given this sentence:

> The <u>hurricane</u> had done much damage to the city; the wind had even blown the roof off the new city hall.

Here is how you might have answered:

<u>Hurricane</u> means a strong wind.

Here is another example:

> The woman was so <u>excited</u> about winning a thousand dollars that she started to cry; nothing anyone did seemed to calm her.

Your answer for this might be:

<u>Excited</u> means happy and nervous.

---

1. So many people wanted to watch the game that the stadium rapidly became <u>congested</u>. In fact, it had never been so full before.

   <u>Congested</u> means _____.

2. The teacher had to <u>curtail</u> the children's game. She was afraid that if she let the game continue, someone would get hurt.

   <u>Curtail</u> means _____.

3. People live in many kinds of houses, depending on where they live. Some <u>domiciles</u> are made of brick or wood, while others are made of animal skins, or even ice.

   <u>Domiciles</u> are _____.

6.

A generator is a machine that produces electrical energy.

CIRCLE the words in the sentence below that would help you to figure out the meaning of generator if you didn't have the definition.

When the town's electricity went off, a private generator supplied electricity to the hospital.

supplied electricity

7.

Sometimes you can find the meaning of a word in the neighborhood around it, that is, in the context of the word.

Context means:

- ☐ the dictionary definition of a word
- ☐ the root of a word
- ☐ the words or sentences surrounding a word

the words or sentences . .

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## MASTERY TEST

Time started _____

8.

At the beginning of this lesson, you learned that prohibiting picnics means forbidding picnics.

Let's look at prohibit in another context.

> "Sure, I'd like to take a trip to Africa, but the cost of an airline ticket is <u>prohibitive</u>. I'm not made of gold, you know."

In this context, prohibit has a slightly different meaning than it did when it was surrounded by words about Coney Island. When this fellow says that the cost of the ticket is prohibitive, he means that the cost of the trip:

- ☐ is forbidden
- ☐ makes him realize how little money he has
- ☐ makes him think twice
- ☐ stops him from taking it

stops him from taking it

You could figure out the meaning of prohibitive because you knew the meaning of:

- ☐ its context
- ☐ its root

its context
its root

9.

Let's examine a few more words in context. LOOK for the definition of the underlined word in the words around it.

> In order to <u>modify</u> a standard model car so that it can be used in stock car races, certain parts must be taken out and others put in.

<u>Modify</u> means:

- ☐ change
- ☐ clean
- ☐ decorate
- ☐ streamline

change

| | |
|---|---|
| CONTEXT | means "the words of sentences that surround a word" |
| WORDS IN CONTRAST | "words that mean the opposite of each other" |
| words which are clues that there is a contrast | ALTHOUGH, BUT, HOWEVER |
| Three ways of finding the meaning of a word | 1. Look at the sentences around the word.<br>2. Find a word that means the same thing.<br>EXAMPLE: "They had many people whose <u>intention</u> or <u>plan</u> was that the building be finished soon."<br>(If you don't know what the word "intention" means, the sentence tells you that it means the same thing as "plan".)<br>3. Find a word that means the opposite.<br>EXAMPLE: "This food is very beneficial but that food is quite harmful."<br>(The word "but" tells you that the meaning of "beneficial" is the opposite of "harmful".) |

| | |
|---|---|
| 10.<br><br>Any car that is parked illegally gets a ticket. It doesn't matter to whom the car belongs. The policeman said that it was <u>irrelevant</u> that it was the mayor's car.<br><br><u>Irrelevant</u> means:<br><br>☐ beside the point<br>☐ illegal<br>☐ unfair<br>☐ unfortunate | beside the point |
| 11.<br><br>The pitcher struck out six men in <u>succession</u>. The opposing team felt sure it would lose the game if the pitcher kept striking out each batter in turn.<br><br><u>Succession</u> means:<br><br>☐ a losing battle<br>☐ one by one, in turn<br>☐ successful action<br>☐ total | one by one, in turn |
| 12.<br><br>Successful means gaining success or achieving a good result.<br><br>You know from the last frame that <u>succession</u> means <u>in turn</u>.<br><br>This means that:<br><br>☐ you can always tell the meaning of a word by its root<br>☐ you should always study the context of the word, even when you know what the root means | you should always study . . . |

44.

In this lesson, you have learned three ways of finding the meaning of unknown words by looking at the context in which they appear. You learned to look for a given meaning in the sentences around the unfamiliar word. You also learned to look for a word that is similar to the one you don't know. And finally, you learned to look for contrast. Once you find a word that means the opposite of the one you don't know, you can figure out what the unfamiliar word means.

You now have two vocabulary skills. You will be given practice in these skills in future lessons. Whenever you come across a word you don't know, stop! Look at the word. Does it have a familiar root? Can you figure out its meaning from the context?

If you do this every time you meet a new word, you will become very skilled in figuring out word meanings. This will be of great help to you when you take the tests that will help you to get a high school equivalency certificate.

Time completed _____

YOU HAVE NOW FINISHED THE FIRST PART OF THIS LESSON. WRITE DOWN THE TIME. THEN, AFTER YOU HAVE REVIEWED THE MAIN IDEAS IN THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY, TAKE THE MASTERY TEST AT THE END OF THE BOOKLET.

13.

Hot dogs, soda, and potato chips are good once in a while, but a steady diet of them would <u>eventually</u> have a bad effect on you. In the end you would realize that a balanced diet is more healthful.

<u>Eventually</u> means:

- ☐ finally
- ☐ positively
- ☐ possibly
- ☐ soon

finally

45

43.

READ the following:

The judge didn't want the jury to be influenced by other people, so he isolated them by putting them in a room by themselves. They began to discuss the case. Someone pointed out that although most of the evidence was plausible, some of it couldn't possibly be true. Most of the facts agreed with each other, but some were contradictory. Soon everyone agreed that the man was guilty. Then there was an argument about how to punish him. Most people wanted to be lenient; however, a few thought he should be given severe punishment. It seemed as if the discussion would go on forever, but it finally terminated at midnight. The man was given a two-year sentence.

Each of the underlined words above is listed below. Use the passage to help you figure out what they mean. Then MATCH them with their definitions in Column A.

| Column A | Column B | |
|---|---|---|
| A. ended | 1. _____ isolated | 1. F |
| B. in disagreement | 2. _____ plausible | 2. E |
| C. interrupted | 3. _____ contradictory | 3. B |
| D. mild; merciful | 4. _____ lenient | 4. D |
| E. believable | 5. _____ terminated | 5. A |
| F. put apart from others | | |

14.

READ the following paragraphs:

a. The Viet Cong have surrounded parts of South Vietnam. Therefore, many of the people in this <u>besieged</u> country live in fear and danger.

b. The United States often makes the point that it does not want to govern Vietnam. The American government <u>emphasizes</u> the fact that the Vietnamese should be able to choose their own leaders.

c. General Ky is one of the most noticeable and important people in Vietnamese politics. He is <u>conspicuous</u> in both the government and the military.

d. He hopes the Vietnamese will form a more orderly government. A <u>systematic</u> government for Vietnam is very important.

Using what you have learned about finding definitions in words or sentences around a word, MATCH the words in Column B with their definitions in Column A.

| Column A | Column B | |
|---|---|---|
| A. based on plan; organized | 1. _____ besieged | 1. D |
| B. easy to see; outstanding | 2. _____ conspicuous | 2. B |
| C. give special importance to | 3. _____ emphasize | 3. C |
| D. hemmed in by armed forces | 4. _____ systematic | 4. A |
| E. messy; disorderly | | |

42.

In the next two frames, you will be asked to read paragraphs that contain words you probably don't know. But using the skills you have learned in this lesson, you should be able to figure out the meanings of these words.

For example, READ this paragraph:

> There are nearly 200 million people in this country. Among this multitude are many different types. Some are very wealthy, living in great ease and comfort. But others are destitute. Some make their homes in the country, although most of them reside in urban areas.

Each of the underlined words above is listed below. Use the passage to help you figure out what they mean. Then MATCH them with their definitions in Column A.

| Column A | Column B | |
|---|---|---|
| A. city | 1. _____ multitude | 1. C |
| B. farmers | | |
| C. large numbers | 2. _____ destitute | 2. E |
| D. live | | |
| E. poor | 3. _____ reside | 3. D |
| | 4. _____ urban | 4. A |

| | |
|---|---|
| 15.<br><br>PREVIEW FRAME<br><br>Sometimes another word in the sentence means the same thing as the word you don't know.<br><br>For example, in the statement below made and created mean the same thing.<br><br>The Bible says that God made animals on the fifth day and that on the sixth day He created man.<br><br>In the following frames you will be taught to select the context for words that have the same meaning as an unknown word.<br><br>NO RESPONSE REQUIRED | GO ON TO THE NEXT FRAME |
| 16.<br><br>The boxer's plan was to win the fight, but it was not his intention to seriously hurt anyone.<br><br>Plan has nearly the same meaning as intention.<br><br>Intention in this context means:<br><br>☐ chance<br>☐ interest<br>☐ operation<br>☐ purpose | purpose |
| 17.<br><br>In each of the following examples, CIRCLE the word or words that have about the same meaning as the underlined word.<br><br>a. A fair judge is impartial.<br><br>b. Part of every man's function or role in society is to help his neighbor.<br><br>c. The air force pilots in Vietnam were asked to maintain their good work and keep up their record. | fair<br><br>role<br><br>keep up |

| | |
|---|---|
| 40.<br><br>It's always a feast or a famine.<br><br>Famine means:<br><br>☐ Egyptian King<br>☐ familiar<br>☐ food shortage<br>☐ holiday | food shortage |
| 41.<br><br>READ the following:<br><br>Clay was a courageous boxer and it wasn't surprising that his opponent was frightened. Clay was very active in the first round but his opponent did not move about much. By the third round there was no doubt as to who was boss in the ring. In the fourth round there were many wild and savage punches. Although Clay made the most punches there was no scarcity on either side. At the end of the bout the decision of the judges in favor of Clay was unanimous. However, there were a few supporters of the other man who disagreed with their decision.<br><br>Now MATCH the words in Column A with their meanings in Column B.<br><br>Column A<br>A. brave<br>B. in complete agreement<br>C. lack<br>D. lively<br>E. polite<br><br>Column B<br>1. _____ courageous<br>2. _____ active<br>3. _____ scarcity<br>4. _____ unanimous | 1. A<br>2. D<br>3. C<br>4. B |

18.

READ the following examples. There is a word similar to the underlined word in each of these examples. CIRCLE that word in each example.

a. Measles is a <u>disease</u> that most children get. This illness often causes spots on the skin. (illness)

b. If you are the owner of a car or motorcycle, you are a <u>consumer</u> of gasoline. Like all buyers of gasoline, you must pay gasoline taxes. (buyers)

c. If a man wears a heavy coat in very hot weather, you might say he is unusual or <u>eccentric</u>. (unusual)

d. A suspect is often asked to <u>relate</u> his comings and goings the night of the crime. What he reports is then checked out by the police. (reports)

19.

MATCH the words in Column A with their meanings in Column B. (You may refer to the examples in the previous frame.)

| Column A | Column B | |
|---|---|---|
| A. make | 1. _____ consumer | F |
| B. odd | 2. _____ disease | C |
| C. sickness | 3. _____ eccentric | B |
| D. sign | 4. _____ relate | E |
| E. tell | 5. _____ symbol | D |
| F. user | | |

20.

STOP

WRITE the time you finished frame 19 here: _____

You may take a break now. Leave the room quietly, and relax for a few minutes. When you return, begin working on Part B of this lesson.

5E

| | |
|---|---|
| 37.<br><br>If you have type AB blood you are a universal recipient or receiver, but if you have type O blood you are a universal <u>donor</u>.<br><br>What does <u>donor</u> mean?<br><br>☐ bleeder<br>☐ doughnut<br>☐ giver<br>☐ helper | giver |
| 38.<br><br>Although the Model T was once a popular car, more modern models are used now. The Model T is <u>obsolete</u>.<br><br>You can tell from the contrast that <u>obsolete</u> means:<br><br>☐ expensive<br>☐ modern<br>☐ no longer used<br>☐ still popular | no longer used |
| 39.<br><br>Although the welder was <u>proficient</u> at his job, he was unskilled on the company's bowling team.<br><br><u>Proficient</u> means:<br><br>☐ very able<br>☐ very late<br>☐ very noisy<br>☐ very profitable | very able |

Write the time you returned from your break here: _____

53

| | |
|---|---|
| 34.<br><br>CIRCLE the word that indicates or shows you that a contrast may be present in this sentence:<br><br>Although he wished he didn't have to go to school, he knew that it was <u>inevitable</u> until he turned sixteen.<br><br><u>Inevitable</u> means:<br><br>☐ had to happen<br>☐ ineffective<br>☐ learning<br>☐ unnecessary | (Although)<br><br>had to happen |
| 35.<br><br>Although most of the Job Corpsmen got along well together, there was some <u>friction</u> between two of the boys.<br><br>The word <u>friction</u> tells us that two of the boys:<br><br>☐ didn't like each other<br>☐ liked each other<br>☐ lived together<br>☐ weren't in the group | didn't like each other |
| 36.<br><br>Vinegar has a <u>pungent</u> taste, but oil is mild or bland.<br><br>What does <u>pungent</u> mean?<br><br>☐ bad<br>☐ bland<br>☐ dull<br>☐ sharp | sharp |

21.

So far you have learned two context clues: given definitions, and similar words. A third way of searching a word's neighborhood to discover its meaning is to look for a contrast situation.

Here is a list of some words in contrast to show you what contrast means:

bad: good
black: white
city: country
cold: hot
day: night
dwarf: giant
light: dark
positive: negative
simple: complex
sweet: sour

Words in contrast are words that have:

- ☐ the opposite meaning
- ☐ the same meaning

the opposite meaning

22.

WRITE a word that is in contrast to each of these words:

a. cheap _____
b. fat _____
c. heavy _____
d. high _____
e. tall _____
f. wet _____

expensive
thin
light
low
short
dry

(Your answers may be a little different from the ones given here.)

| | |
|---|---|
| 31.<br><br>CIRCLE the word that points to a contrast in this statement:<br><br>Most of the committee members kept <u>fluctuating</u> in their opinions. However, the chairman had his mind made up from the beginning.<br><br><u>Fluctuating</u> means:<br><br>☐ arguing<br>☐ changing<br>☐ flunking<br>☐ getting confused | However<br><br>changing |
| 32.<br><br>Very few of the guys liked the idea of having a dance but the <u>majority</u> of the girls were in favor of it.<br><br>The <u>majority</u> means:<br><br>☐ a couple<br>☐ group<br>☐ most<br>☐ none | most |
| 33.<br><br>It had been raining for many days, but the townspeople did not mind because they remembered what it had been like during the months of <u>drought</u>.<br><br>What does <u>drought</u> mean?<br><br>☐ dry period<br>☐ food shortage<br>☐ rainy period<br>☐ summer | dry period |

| | |
|---|---|
| 23.<br><br>Let's see how knowing something about contrast can help you to discover the meanings of words. READ this sentence:<br><br>Although he was <u>poor</u>, he could tell any rich person a thing or two about cars.<br><br>If you did not know the meaning of poor, you could discover it from a word in contrast. What word in this sentence is in contrast to <u>poor</u>? _____ | rich |
| 24.<br><br>Let's try another example.<br><br>An arithmetic problem can often be <u>complicated</u>. However a short cut sometimes makes it very easy.<br><br>What word in contrast gives you a clue to the meaning of <u>complicated</u>? _____<br><br>What does complicated mean?<br><br>☐ compared<br>☐ difficult<br>☐ accomplished<br>☐ pleasurable | easy<br><br>difficult |

29.

Now READ this sentence, looking carefully at the underlined word.

> The quarterback was completely rested at the beginning of the game. However, by the end of the third quarter, he was suffering from exhaustion.

What word tells you to look for contrast?

_____

However

DRAW a circle around the word that is in contrast to exhaustion.

rested

If someone is suffering from exhaustion, they are:

- ☐ happy
- ☐ thirsty
- ☐ wide-awake
- ☐ worn out

worn out

30.

> Their teacher tried very hard to get them interested in science, but the students remained indifferent.

CIRCLE the word in contrast to indifferent.

interested

What does indifferent mean?

- ☐ excited
- ☐ lazy
- ☐ seated
- ☐ uninterested

uninterested

25.

There are certain words that tell you a contrast word might be in the neighborhood. You can look for a contrast word when you see one of these words:

but  although  however

Each of the sentences below contains one of the above words. CIRCLE the word in each sentence below that points to a contrast situation.

1. The medicine a doctor gives you will be beneficial for you, but it might be harmful if you gave it to someone else. — but

2. Although most of the Job Corpsmen got along well together, there was some friction between two of the boys. — Although

3. Most of the committee members kept fluctuating in their opinions. However, the chairman had his mind made up from the beginning. — However

4. Very few of the guys liked the idea of having a dance, but the majority of the girls were in favor of it. — but

26.

On the line after each sentence, FILL IN THE BLANK with the word that points to a contrast word.

It had been raining for many days, but the townspeople did not mind because they remembered what it had been like during the months of drought.
_____ but

Although he wished he didn't have to go to school, he knew that it was inevitable until he turned sixteen.
_____ Although

The quarterback was completely rested at the beginning of the game. However, by the end of the third quarter, he was suffering from exhaustion.
_____ However

Their teacher tried very hard to get them interested in science, but the students remained indifferent.
_____ but

27.

There are three words that you will often find in sentences using contrast. When you see one of these words, you will know to look for a contrast clue to help you figure out a word you do not know. What are the three words that often indicate contrast?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

although

but

however

(any order)

28.

READ this sentence.

> The medicine a doctor gives you will be <u>beneficial</u> for you, but it might be harmful if you give it to someone else.

What word tells you there is probably a contrast situation in this sentence? _____

but

In the above example, beneficial means the opposite of harmful. Therefore, <u>beneficial</u> means:

- ☐ bad-tasting
- ☐ dangerous
- ☐ helpful
- ☐ poisonous

helpful

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